

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1852.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT,
GEN. FRANKLIN PIERCE,
Of New Hampshire.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
HON. WM. R. KING,
Of Alabama.

FOR GOVERNOR,
HON. DAVID S. REID,
Of Alabama.

COUNTY NOMINATIONS.

FOR THE SENATE,
JOHN A. SANDERS,
FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,
ROBERT STRANGE, JR.,
JOHN A. CORBETT.

"No North, no South, no East, no West, under the Constitution; but a sacred maintenance of the common bond and true devotion to the common brotherhood."

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

Messrs. Reid and Kerr: The Discussion at Elizabethtown.

We have talked with gentlemen of both parties, who have been present at some of the discussions between the Democratic and Whig candidates for Governor, and have generally received the same account. They all say that Mr. Kerr has the more showy delivery, marred, however, by something theatrical in manner and gesture, and at times a sacrifice of argument to effect. On the other hand, Mr. Reid is the better politician, more accurately posted upon all the points, and pays more strict attention to them; his delivery is somewhat cold, or rather quiet; and not so well calculated to excite a temporary enthusiasm as that of his rival, although permanent in its effect; because acting more upon the reason and reflection. It would be nonsense to say that Mr. Kerr is a contemptible opponent; or that he does not make a pretty good stump speech, for he does. It would be equally out of the way, however, to assert that, as a cool, well-informed political debater, he is equal to Gov. Reid; and most supremely ridiculous to represent him as having caught that gentleman napping; or in any other way obtained a triumph over him. We know how it is at meetings between rival candidates, upon the ground, at least. The partisans of each are, or appear to be perfectly satisfied with their man. It is only some new idea or convincing argument, taking hold upon the mind and producing subsequent reflection, that effects any change in political opinions. This was fully exemplified during the two canvasses for Governor, through which Mr. Reid has already passed, and in which he has been so successful.

Anonymous writers who choose to step out from the retirement of private life, and over fictitious signatures to make bitter, uncalculated, and unjust attacks upon the candidate of a great party, cannot expect their effusions to be treated with extra courtesy. Some person of a highly poetical character, wrote at an Elizabethtown, and sent it to the Fayetteville Observer, in which paper it appeared on the 10th ult. This communication purported to give an account of the discussion which had taken place at the county seat of Bladen county, between Messrs. Reid and Kerr; and no doubt it was so intended, but without something to indicate that it is apart from any internal evidence, no one could have recognized the picture. This was, we presume, owing mainly to the preponderance of the imagination, which is a characteristic of the poetical temperament; and "Anthropos" must have been a poet from the facility with which he gave "to airy nothing, a local habitation and a name," and made Mr. Kerr achieve victories which were never perceived or appreciated by the unimpaired multitude, and attributed to Mr. Reid positions upon the Homestead Bill, of which the said Mr. Reid was not himself aware, and which are contradicted by the editor of the Wadesboro' Argus. (Whig.) For all these, and sundry other good and sufficient reasons too numerous to mention, we felt that "Anthropos" must be a devotee of the nine, slightly prejudiced it might be, but still a man of genius and imagination, and with our habitual respect for such, we were mild and moderate in our allusions to his communication. We cannot say much for his gratitude. In the last Observer he signs himself R. and looks "taring mad," calls us names, quotes poetry at us, and upon the whole does not appear to regard us with a proper Christian feeling. Now all this is wrong. We have nothing to do with him personally, whoever he may be. A ridiculous and unfair communication comes out and we scold it. So it ends. We cannot be accused of having attacked him personally since we know nothing of him. We would beg him for his own good, however, to remember one thing, and that is, that epithets are not arguments, nor are regarded as such, save by shallow boys or persons extremely ignorant; and further we would advise him in all kindness not to expose himself much more, as there are already many who cannot help smiling over the promptitude with which our little sketch of an "unbiased prodigy" has been appropriated. There is more than one such person in the world and if "Anthropos" can only keep quiet, there will be not so much chance of detection. His is not called upon to out-Dogberry Dogberry.

We give to-day, according to promise, the official platform of the Whig Convention. We must say, however, that there is something in the whole affair for which we cannot account. It seems from the record, that the platform, originally published, had been printed in the Baltimore and Washington papers for days before the adjournment of the Convention. These papers had unquestionably been seen by every member of that Convention, and their report of its doings read and commented upon. It is certainly strange, then, that not a single delegate rose in his place to complain of the misrepresentation—that none of the officers of the Convention said a word about it—that Mr. Ashmun, of Mass., by whom the platform was reported, permitted a glaringly erroneous statement to go abroad throughout the length and breadth of the land, and to pass without contradiction for three or four days, during which the Convention was in session; and that, with hundreds of anxious eyes scanning every syllable, such an important variation should never have been discovered until after the adjournment of the Convention. Those who can see through all this, are wiser and shrewder than we can pretend to be. It may be all so, and the President, Vice Presidents and Secretaries say it is so; but how it can be so, deponent saith not. It is passing strange. There is some screw loose, and it will shortly be seen where the defect lies.—Daily Journal, 28th ult.

A special term of the Superior Court of Law for New Hanover county, is in session this week at the Court House in Wilmington, His Honor Judge Manly presiding.

We are requested to state, that the candidates for the Legislature will address their fellow-citizens at the Dry Pond, at the corner in the Oak Grove, on this (Friday) evening, at eight o'clock, and at upper Rail Road Bridge, on Saturday evening next. The candidates for Sheriff will also be present.

Political Movements.

It is said, that Messrs. Toombs and Stephens, of Georgia, will take early occasion in the House to oppose the nomination of Scott; Mr. Gentry, of Tennessee, vehemently opposes it.

Mr. Townsend, a Democratic Free Soiler from Ohio, took occasion in the House of Representatives on the 23d inst., to define his position in opposition to the action of the Democratic Convention. He opposes both nominations and platform. Mr. Giddings, a Whig Free Soiler from the same State, followed in denunciation of both parties.

A Bill has passed both Houses of Congress, for the establishment of a Branch Mint at San Francisco.

The House of Representatives, after some discussion, passed, on Saturday morning, by ten majority, the Land Bill reported by Mr. Henry Bennet, of New York, from the Committee on Public Lands, proposing to grant public lands to all the States at the rate of one hundred and fifty thousand acres for each Senator and Representative in Congress; and to each of the organized territories and the District of Columbia, one hundred and fifty thousand acres.

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The Commercial, of last Tuesday, contains a communication signed "G. M.," placing before the people of this county the name of W. A. Wright, Esq., as a candidate for the Legislature. We take it for granted, that this movement has been made without Mr. Wright's knowledge or consent; since, apart from all other considerations, a little reflection must convince any one, that however party lines might be overstepped, at times involving few or no political issues, the present is not of those times; but on the contrary, the political complexion of the State for years, perhaps, may depend upon the issue of the coming contest. Under these circumstances, no gentleman of the opposite party, however high his character may be, can reasonably look for any prospect of success in a canvass for a political office before the people of New Hanover county.

"The Right of a Majority to Rule."

Under the above head, the Fayetteville Observer of the 27th endeavors to prove that several prominent Democrats in the last Legislature of the State assented to the radical and unconstitutional doctrine of submitting the organic law of the State, in effect, to the caprice of a bare majority; and in order to do so, quotes from a report upon negro slavery, in which the abstract right of secession is asserted, together with the claim of a majority of the people of North Carolina, acting through the organized authorities of the State, to the sole and undivided allegiance of all her citizens.

We cannot see what this has to do with the matter, although the Observer fancies that it does, for it says: "These Democrats (Messrs. Clarke, Avery, Caldwell, and Person,) assert that a majority of the people of the State have a right to destroy the Union, and thereby destroy entirely the Constitution of North Carolina, etc." Now, we had supposed that the Constitution of North Carolina had been formed in seventy-six—long before the present Union—that it had existed in full force after the formation of the present Federal Constitution, while North Carolina stood aloof from the Union and was no party to it. The Constitution of North Carolina is no creature of the Union;—it is one of its creators. It is sheer fallacy, however, to mix these things up with amendments to the Constitution, with which they have no sort of connection. The design, nevertheless, is evident. It is to distract attention—to substitute false but plausible issues for the real ones, and thus save the Observer's party candidate from the condemnation which his political sins subject him to at the hands of the people. It will not do. Reid will gain in every Western county except, perhaps, Rutherford, where there may be some falling off, since the very remarkable change in that county at the last gubernatorial election arose, in a great measure, from local causes, which will operate with much less force at this time; upon the whole, however, Reid will considerably more than maintain his ground in the West, if our information be at all correct; and in the East he will gain largely.

Something Like Hypocrisy.

The new Liquor Law enacted in Massachusetts prohibits the distillation or manufacture of any spirituous compound intended for consumption within the State, but places no restriction upon that made for sale in other States. What the "fathers" of Massachusetts look upon as "poison" to their own people, they regard as quite good enough for the "rest of mankind," when there is any money to be made by the operation. Holy men in Massachusetts!

Arrival of the Atlantic.

The American steamship Atlantic, arrived at New York on the 26th inst., with Liverpool dates to the 16th, being four days later than previous arrivals.—The Liverpool papers notice a decline of 4d. a qd. per pound in Cotton. No change in Indian Corn.

Jenny Lind and her husband had arrived in England. There is an increase in the circulation of the Irish bank last month to the amount of £63,000.

IRISH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—On Thursday, June 10th, the Irish Industrial Exhibition opened in the city of Cork in the Corn Exchange, very much enlarged by temporary additions. The grand saloon is 182 feet long, 53 broad, and 50 high. It is of wood, lighted by windows and a strip of glass along the roof. There is a good display of poplins, laces, and other fabrics; a number of handsome specimens of sculpture and painting; a very fine organ by Telford, and a handsome fountain. The Exhibition is altogether very satisfactory. It was formally opened by the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Eglinton, and his Countess, with much ceremony, and a brilliant crowd was in attendance.

FRANCE.—M. Emile de Girardin, in reply to Gen. Changarnier's denial through the London Times, reiterates his assertion, that in March, 1848, that General proposed to Ledru Rollin to put himself at the head of 12,000 troops, to invade England, and to proclaim the Republic, and adds that the General frequently boasted on the benches of the National Assembly of having made the proposal, a fact that is certified by M. Mathieu (de la Drome).

PEACHES.—The Editor of the Mobile Tribune saw some very fine peaches in that city on the 21st ult., which were of very fine flavor, and grown in the neighborhood.

We learn that recently, while a few indiscreet individuals were speaking disparagingly of General Pierce's conduct in Mexico, Maj. Gen. Scott, who was present, put an end to the remarks by expressing his unqualified admiration of that gentleman's uniform patriotic course in the campaign.

Washington Corr. Bull. Clipper, 26th inst.

Gen. Scott's military fame is too well established to be questioned, and he can afford to speak the truth about an opponent. It is only the very small dogs of the party who feel the necessity of pursuing a course of detraction, or of sneering at Gen. Pierce's courage and patriotism.

Fair Play is a Jewel.

In its issue of the 21st ult. the Washington Republican inserted a communication signed "One who saw and knows," in which are attacks made upon General Pierce, with the view of creating an impression that that gentleman had exhibited cowardice or incompetence during his service in Mexico.—This brought out a reply from an officer of the old line of the army, which reply was published in the Republic—that of the 22d ult. It would seem but fair that papers copying the charge should also have paid some attention to its refutation in the same paper. Such fairness, however has not been exhibited by the Raleigh Register, which paper, in its issue of the 26th, copies the reputed calumny without saying a word about the refutation. Such a course does not contrast very favorably with that pursued by the Republic, which paper did Gen. Pierce the justice to publish both sides of the controversy. As this article signed "One who knows" will no doubt be reproduced by other papers as well as the Register, we deem it but fair to give it and the answer to it, signed "Old Army." All we ask for is something like candor and fair play:

"General Pierce's Battle." "We have before us the official list of officers who marched with the army under the command of Major General Winfield Scott from Puebla upon the city of Mexico, the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth of August, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and who were engaged in the battles of Mexico. From this list we learn that General Franklin Pierce was in the battles of Contreras, Chapultepec, Molino del Rey, near Chapultepec, near Belen, and at Garita de Belen."—Republic, 8th June.

To the Editor of the Republic.

Sir: If you will examine the official reports, you will find that General Pierce, though present with the army in the valley of Mexico, was personally engaged in not one battle. I refer you to his own reports, in the message and accompanying documents for 1847-8.

He fell from or with his horse on the 19th August, (day before the battle of Contreras,) joined his brigade on the morning of 20th August, after the battle of Contreras, and fell from pain and exhaustion (same day) before reaching the field of Churubusco, and by his own official confession, beyond the range of the enemy's guns. In the next battle in order and time (Molino del Rey) his brigade was not engaged. It was ordered up, but, according to Gen. Worth's letter in answer to Gen. Scott's report, did not reach the field until two hours after the battle was ended and the enemy entirely routed.

The next battle was Chapultepec and the garitas (gates) of the city, on the same day, (September 13.) "Pierce's brigade" was engaged throughout the day, and with especial gallantry and success, at Chapultepec; but Gen. Pierce himself was not present, having been ordered to the Garita de Belen, (a regiment of it) at the Garita de Belen at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 14th September, which was after commissioners from the city had notified Gen. Quitman, commanding at that garita, that Santa Anna had evacuated the city, and that resistance was ended. Indeed, all firing had ceased the evening previous.

It may have been his misfortune rather than his fault; and the fact is stated not to prove General Pierce a skulker in capotes, (a case of cowardice hardly to be conceived,) but to show that he was not in his military services are not well founded, and indeed, not equal to what you accord to him.

I will add, what seems not to be generally understood, that General Pierce joined the army for the first time at Puebla—I think the day before the first division marched from that place for the city of Mexico.

He resigned his commission and came home in the first train that left Mexico after the occupation by our troops of that city—some eight or nine months before the war was ended.

ONE WHO SAW AND KNOWS.

"One who saw and knows."

To the Editor of the Republic:

Sir: Your correspondent, "One who saw and knows," both saw and knew too much.

1. An examination of the official records shows that the allegation of "One who saw and knows," that Gen. Pierce was not in a single battle in Mexico, is not true.

2. Gen. Pierce personally led his command into action at Contreras, on the day of the 19th August, and fell with his horse fat in the front, exposed to a severe fire of shells from the camp, and of musketry from the troops of the enemy. This is referred to in the official reports.

3. At Molino del Rey, Gen. Pierce brought up his command under fire in fine order; and there are officers now in this city who witnessed his gallant conduct on that occasion.

4. Gen. Pierce joined his command before dawn on the morning of the 14th, fully expecting the city would be stormed at, or soon after, dawn. Quitman himself never knew till after daylight that the city was evacuated. Moreover, the firing had not ceased the whole of the 14th, in which many officers and men were killed and wounded. So much for the statement of "One who saw and knows."

5. Gen. Pierce did not come home by the first train, as stated by "One who saw and knows."

6. Considering the ill-health of Gen. Pierce and his first untoward accident, it is a matter of surprise that he did as much duty as he did. It is a matter of surprise that he ventured to lead his command into action at Contreras. It is a matter of surprise that he left his bed in the night of the 13th and 14th, where he had been confined by severe sickness for some thirty-six hours, and joined his command.

7. The curious wish to know more about this, let them inquire of Captain, or Topographical Engineers, whose room he occupied in Worth's quarters during this time.

8. I do not know who your correspondent, "One who saw and knows," is. He may have been in the valley of Mexico, but he certainly does not know of what he affirms. There are in this city men who did both see and know, and who will not let his assertions upon a gallant man pass without rebuke. I have reason to believe that every officer of the "Old Army" will sustain me in what I have written.

9. The friends of Gen. Pierce simply claim that in his service in Mexico he did his duty as a son of the Republic; that he was eminently patriotic, disinterested, and gallant; and that it is his duty to defend his beautiful civic wreath. As a citizen, he has been ready to make sacrifices for his country.—As a soldier and commander, he has shown gallantry before the enemy, and was eminently the friend and father of his command.

Georgia.

In addition to the Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel, already noticed as being out in opposition to Gen. Scott, the Savannah Republican and the Macon Messenger, also leading Whig papers of the State, repudiate the nomination. A notice signed by the President and Vice Presidents of the late Constitutional Union Convention, convoking another Convention of their party, to meet on the 15th of July next, to decide upon this Presidential difficulty. It is not impossible that a third candidate may be nominated.

As considerable anxiety has been manifested, says the Augusta Chronicle, to know the position of Messrs. Stephens and Toombs in relation to the nomination, it affords us great gratification to lay before our readers the following telegraphic dispatch received yesterday:

WASHINGTON, June 23.
Jas. W. Jones, Esq.—Scott is nominated. We do not believe that he ought to be supported by the "Constitutional Union Party" of Georgia; but we will abide by the decision of their Convention, when it assembles.

ALEX. H. STEPHENS, ROBT. TOOMBS.

Not So.—As the report is in circulation by correspondents in Whig papers and otherwise, that Gov. Reid has come out in favor of the Homestead Bill, we wish distinctly to state, that Governor Reid has not done so, and that he is not an advocate of that bill.

The Next Legislature.—To the Democratic Party.

The important issues depending upon the election which will take place on the 6th day of next month, urge, nay, force upon the attention of every Democrat the necessity and propriety of using every honorable effort to secure a favorable result. The next Legislature will choose a United States Senator for six years from the 4th of next March; will divide the State into Congressional districts for the next ten years, and into State Senatorial districts for the next twenty; and will also apportion members of the House of Commons for the same length of time. It will also have before it the question of Equal Suffrage, or of an unlimited Convention at the dictation of a bare majority. The Judiciary system will most probably come before it for change or revival; and perhaps other matters of importance connected with Internal Improvements. It will therefore, be easily seen, that the coming session of the Legislature will be one of the most—if not the most—important in the history of the State, and may decide the fate of parties for years to come. Under these circumstances, we feel it our duty to urge upon our democratic friends in the various counties of this district, and of all others that our circulation reaches, to be up and doing. Where they have as yet brought out no candidates for the Legislature, no time should be lost in getting their very strongest men into the field; where, unfortunately, the running of two Democratic candidates endangers the ascendancy of the party by allowing a Whig to run in by our divisions, active and energetic measures should be adopted to prevent the evil effects of this state of things—to either reconcile or set aside altogether the opposing candidates. In the last Legislature the strongly Democratic county of Columbus was mis-represented by a Whig, and all through our divisions. We regret to learn that the same result is threatened this time, from the operation of the same causes. Our friends in Columbus can prevent this, and they owe it to themselves to do so. Not a member can be spared in the coming Legislature, and the party expects every man and every county to do its duty. These same remarks will apply to other counties similarly situated.

We are not aware that any steps have yet been taken in Bladen with regard to bringing out candidates for the Senate and House of Commons. We should be happy to receive and publish any call or communication from our Bladen friends upon this subject.

"An Edgecombe Democrat."

The Fayetteville Observer of the 29th ult., disputes our assertion to the effect that the communication in the Tarboro' Southerner, to which it referred a few days since, as complimentary to Mr. Kerr at the expense of Mr. Reid, was not written by an Edgecombe Democrat, but by a "bitter whig." It says that until it has some better authority than the Journal's denial upon no authority, it prefers to rely upon the statements heretofore made.

The Observer is perfectly welcome, of course, to please itself. We, however, knew what we stated, and did not make our denial upon no authority. We do not wish to bring forward names, the owners of which may not desire notoriety, but we have them, including the name of the correspondent alluded to, who has uniformly voted the Whig ticket. He is however of the number of States Rights Whigs, and might very fairly be such, and yet disagree with the high Federal notions of Mr. Kerr, upon national politics. If the Observer and the other Federalist papers choose to pursue this matter we will prove what we say—not to please them, but to vindicate the truth.

It has been asserted and perhaps with some foundation in truth that Mr. Clay had expressed a desire for the election of Pierce over Scott. This assertion, however, we have never copied into our columns, because it was only a rumor and took no definite and responsible shape. It has also been stated that after the unsuccessful balloting in the Whig Convention up to Saturday night, and the adjournment then without any result, Mr. Fillmore telegraphed to his friends to go for Webster and save the Whig party. This we stated in our paper, believing it to be a fact, and we still believe it to be so. A message, telegraphic or verbal to that effect was received from Mr. Fillmore and circulated among the members of the convention. The fact of the message has been admitted to us by Whig delegates to the Baltimore convention as being substantially correct. It will not do now for the Fillmore whig papers, which first gave this matter publicity to try and swallow it in order to prove their new-born devotion to Scott.

We live and learn. We find things out that we had never thought of before. For instance, we learn from an article in the Herald of last Wednesday, headed "Democratic Acceptances," that a reliance upon Providence is a very wrong thing; and that the expression of such on the part of the Democratic nominee for the Presidency, is "simply nauseating." This may be the opinion of the Editor of the Herald, and we do not wish to interfere with his peculiar views in the matter; but we cannot believe that it is improper for a gentleman, accepting a nomination, (in this case equivalent to an election,) to the highest and most responsible office on earth, to express some little reliance upon "a power superior to all human might"—some little consciousness of his own weakness. It cannot surely have come to this, in a country professing to be Christian. The Editor of the Herald cannot surely be serious, and yet it is not a proper subject for jesting.

SEMI-WEEKLY.—We are pleased to learn from the last number of the Goldsboro' Republican & Patriot, that that excellent Democratic paper is soon to be published semi-weekly, while the weekly will be considerably enlarged. The Republican will do good service in the coming canvass, and should be liberally encouraged by all the friends of the party.

Making a Flourish.

Among the speakers at a Whig ratification meeting, held in New York on Thursday night last, the name of Gen. Edney, of North Carolina, occupies quite a prominent place. Gen. E. is the gentleman who was once dreadfully puzzled by an official trust conferred upon him—he was appointed Consul to Pernambuco—"Pernambuco," said the General, "and where the h—l is Pernambuco! Let's licker."

RESIGNATION.—A telegraphic despatch in the Richmond Enquirer, dated Washington, June 29th, states that Mr. Graham has resigned his post as Secretary of the Navy, in consequence of having received and accepted the nomination of the late Whig National Convention for the Vice Presidency. [Gen. Scott has not sent in his resignation of Major General of the Army, and rumor says that he will not resign till after the result of the election in November next is ascertained. When defeated, of which there is no doubt, he will of course hold on to his present commission.]

WM. A. WRIGHT, Esq., through the Commercial of yesterday, declines to be considered a candidate for the Legislature. His name has been brought before the public, in that connection, without his knowledge or consent.

DUPLIN COUNTY.—Needham B. Whitfield is the name of one of candidates in Duplin county, and not Bryant W. Whitfield, as published in the Journal of the 18th ult.

DEATH OF BISHOP GARDNER.—We learn from the Charleston Standard of the 26th inst., that this much loved Bishop of the diocese of South Carolina, died on the 24th, (Thursday) last, in the City of Charleston, after a lingering illness of many months.

From the Daily Journal, of July 1st.

Death of Hon. Henry Clay.

The news of this melancholy event reached Wilmington yesterday forenoon. Although all were aware of the low state of Mr. Clay's health for months past, still the announcement of his actual departure infused a feeling of sadness into the community.—Yesterday morning the Superior Court was in session, engaged in the transaction of business, when the Hon. Robert Strange arose, and announced in feeling and beautiful language, the departure of the great statesman. His Honor, the members of the Bar, and others present, were deeply affected. The Court adjourned until 9 o'clock this morning. Mr. Clay has so long occupied a prominent position in the country—has filled so large a space in the eyes of the American people, that his death seems like a national calamity.

He died on Tuesday forenoon, at a quarter past eleven o'clock, passing away calm and very easy.—He said nothing. No material change in his condition was observed until about ten minutes before his death. His son, Mr. Calvert and Gov. Jones, of Tennessee, were the only persons in the room at the time. The Senate and House of Representatives adjourned immediately upon the reception of the sad intelligence. The public offices were closed, bells tolled, and flags displayed at half-mast.

Silence is a privilege of the grave, a right due to the departed; we, like others, have differed widely from Mr. Clay's political views while living; we differ from them now—we have censured many of the acts of his life; perhaps on most of these our opinions still remain unchanged. But he is dead now and over his freshly opened grave we can but remember the splendor of his talents and the nobleness of his nature. We can only pay tribute to the Statesman and the Patriot. The passionate man or the ambitious politician are forgotten.

We think that the occasion calls for some appropriate public manifestation. The nature of such manifestation we would not undertake to suggest, further than to express an opinion, in which all will agree, that it ought to be of such a character that all could participate in it. We would suggest the holding of a public meeting at an early day, to take the preparatory steps.

Mr. Clay was born in Hanover county, Virginia, on the 12th of April, 1777, and had, therefore, passed his seventy-fifth year. He entered public life on the national stage as a Senator from Kentucky, in 1806, and became a member of the House of Representatives in 1812, of which body he was chosen Speaker; in 1814 he was appointed by Mr. Madison one of the commissioners to negotiate a treaty of peace with England. In 1825, he accepted the office of Secretary of State, under Mr. Adams. In 1831, he was again elected to the U. S. Senate from Kentucky, and in 1832 was the candidate of his party for the Presidency, in opposition to Gen. Jackson. He was again a candidate in 1844, in opposition to Mr. Polk. In both contests he was unsuccessful. His subsequent career is known to all who take any interest in such matters.

P. S. Since the above was put in type, the following call has been handed in:

NOTICE.—The Citizens of the town are requested to meet at the Masonic Hall, at 8 o'clock, this evening, for the purpose of taking steps to testify their regret for the death of the distinguished patriot, Henry Clay, and to pay respect and honor to his memory, which are due to his high public services.

W. C. HOWARD, M. P.

July 1, 1852.

We publish to-day, the letters of acceptance written by Gen. Scott and Mr. Graham in reply to the communication of Mr. Chapman, President of the Whig National Convention, apprising them of their nominations, and enclosing the resolutions of the Convention for their approval.

The style of Gen. Scott's letter will speak for itself. Those who have found fault with Gen. Pierce for expressing a reliance upon Providence, can have no such fault to find with Gen. Scott. The letter is as purely an electioneering manifesto as it could well be. The fourth paragraph contains an undisguised bid for the Squatter and Foreign vote as we have seen. The early settlement of the public domain, favorable to actual settlers, has been the canting plea for all the land-stealing that has yet taken place—for the Western and Squatter vote—the Land-Reformers and Anti-Renters. That portion of the paragraph about changing the Naturalization laws, so as to give all Foreigners the right of citizenship, which shall faithfully serve, in time of war one year on board of our public ships, or in our land forces regular or volunteer, on their receiving an honorable discharge from the public service, is evidently intended to conciliate and secure the foreign vote in the great central States where his chief effort will be made. It is to be used as a sort of offset to his letter written some years since to the Native American party, in which he said that he was undecided between a very long probation before naturalization, and a total denial of the privilege, but that his mind rather inclined to the latter.

In the fifth paragraph he says that he should seek to cultivate harmony and fraternal sentiments throughout the Whig party, without attempting to reduce its members, by proscription, to exact conformity to his own views. This is for the New York Tribune, and such like, who spit upon the platform, but support Gen. Scott. They shan't be proscribed for such a trifle. Certainly not.

In the sixth paragraph, Gen. Scott says that he shall put down any resistance to the law or the Union on any pretext, carrying into the civil administration the military principle in that respect. According to this should any glaring infringement of the Constitution, or of her reserved rights, cause any State to repudiate the Union, Gen. Scott would be down upon her with the sword of military coercion.

The seventh and eighth paragraphs are remarkable for nothing so much as the beauty of their style, by which the nominative is removed twelve lines from its verb, and their good taste, in virtue of which the fore-legs of the ticket, (Gen. Scott,) endorse the hind-legs of the ticket, (Mr. Graham).—This letter is not signed "in haste."

The Steamship Crescent City arrived at New York on the 28th, bringing two millions and a half in gold, four hundred passengers, and San Francisco dates to the 1st ult. The intelligence from the mining districts was very satisfactory. Large specimens of ore continue to be dug up. A lump of solid weighing 69 ounces was dug out of Mr. Lindberger's lot, at Sonora in Main street. A quartz vein of unusual richness had been discovered on French Gulch near Shasta. Great apprehensions are felt in relation to the state of feeling between the French and Americans in Sonora, much irritation having been excited against the French miners. The Indians still commit depredations in Los Angeles county.

The dates from Oregon are to the 8th of May. Rich specimens of quartz had been obtained from a ledge of rocks on the east side of Casierade ledge near Willamette river. Rich mines were expected in the Cascade range.

Business at San Francisco was brisk.

At the ratification meeting in Jackson, Mississippi, Judge Devenport, it is said, remarked, facetiously, that the letter P was ominous of much good. Said the Judge, "the letter P stands for Polk—and this is to be another Polk race—for Peace, Plenty, Prosperity, Peas, Pumpkins, Pezzer, and the Presidency!"

Counterfeiting Gold Dollars.

The following letter which has been kindly placed at our disposal by a gentleman of this place, will be found of interest and advantage to the business community:—

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, PHILADELPHIA, 26th June, 1852.

Sir: In reply to your inquiry, asking a description of the differences between the genuine and the spurious gold dollars, I present the following remarks:—

Two kinds of counterfeit gold dollars have been observed here. One of these was of the same manufacture as had been noticed in the case of large coins, the quarter and half-eagle, and which it was too hastily supposed could not be carried into the dollar. It consisted of an exterior of very thin gold plates, and an interior plate of silver or some cheaper metal; the whole compressed together by a blow from dies reproduced from the genuine coin, so ingeniously as to form a fac simile. The piece is then milled, the two edges of the gold plate being thus brought together. This counterfeit may be detected by the thickness of the rim or milling, five pieces piling higher than the same number of the genuine; also by a narrow inspection of the edge, where the line of junction may be seen all around.

The other kind of counterfeit is that made by casting some inferior metal in a plaster mould, and gilding the surface. Two young men from the West were convicted in our city, lately, of passing several of this description. When new they look well; but may be known by a want of sharpness and cleanliness in the impression, and by the want of the word Liberty on the female head. The letters on the genuine being small beyond precedent, (only thirteen-thousandths of an inch high,) they cannot be reproduced by moulding.

The surest test for these, and all other kinds of counterfeit, (where cutting is not allowable or assaying practicable,) is that of the weight. The imitations are extremely rare in which this is not a sufficient criterion. A variation of half a grain need occasion no suspicion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,